THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) The Archaeological Survey of India has declared 49 monuments to be of national importance in Assam. Details are available in the Parliament Library. The protected monuments are in a good state of preservation.

(b) The consideration of new sites/monuments for protection and excavations is a continuous process. During the current financial year, the following monuments/sites have been identified for carrying out scientific excavations in Assam:—

1. Sri Surya Pahar, District Goalpara.
2. Ahom Palace Talatal, Sibsagar
3. Maidara No. 2 at Chikedev, Sibsagar

(c) The plan of activities in this regard include:—

1. Conservation, preservation and environmental development of monuments in North-East including Sikkim.
2. Scientific excavations
3. Epigraphical research
4. Financial assistance for unprotected monuments.

Eradi Tribunal

84. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) since when the Eradi Tribunal is functioning.

(b) whether it is a fact that the Tribunal is taking unusually long time; and

(c) by when the Tribunal is likely to finish its work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BUOYA CHAKRA VARTY): (a) and

(b) The Ravi and Beas Waters Tribunal, known as the Eradi Tribunal and constituted through a Notification dated 2.4.1986 of the Government of India, submitted a report on 30.1.1987. A *suo mcto* reference, comprising references of the Central Government and those received from the States of Punjab., Haryana and Rajasthan, seeking explanation/guidance on some points of the Tribunal's report, was forwarded to the Tribunal by the Central Government on 19.8.1987, which has since been sub judice before the Tribunal.

(c) The work of the Tribunal shall be over after it provides requisite explanation/guidance sought in the suo mofo reference ind the Central Government is satisfied that no further reference to the Tribunal in the matter would be necessary.

Meeting of CMs on Ichampally and Polavaram Projects

85. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to convene a meeting of Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra for working out the modalities of the Ichampally and Polavaram Projects on River Godavari;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to resolve early the inter-State disputes for utilisation for Godavari water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) With a view to sort out the issues first at the official level, a High Level Committee has been constituted on 6th July, 2000 under the Chairmanship of Member, Water Planning and Projects, Central Water Commission (CWC) with representatives from the States of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa and